

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 129315  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ISO-00 H-01 PA-01  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 HA-05 /057 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:JCMONJO:PAW  
APPROVED BY EA/PHL:JCMONJO  
EA:RBOAKLEY (DRAFT)  
P:JFORBES (DRAFT)  
H:DKENNEY (DRAFT)

-----075041 220448Z /20

R 212258Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA  
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII 0376

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129315

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (BARBERO, CARMELO; MELCHOR, ALEJANDRO), PEPR,

SUBJECT: BARBERO AND MELCHOR IN WASHINGTON

1. PHILIPPINE DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY CARMELO BARBERO AND PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDANT ALEX MELCHOR, WHOSE VISITS TO WASHINGTON HAVE COINCIDED DURING PAST WEEK HAVE -- AT OUR URGING -- MADE SERIES OF CALLS ON HILL AS WELL AS SEEING DEPT OFFICIALS. BARBERO WAS MOST CONCERNED WITH POSITION TAKEN BY CONGRESSMAN BEDELL THAT U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE SHOULD NOT BE USED BY GOP AGAINST ITS OWN PEOPLE, EVEN IN CASE OF COMMUNIST INSURRECTION AGAINST GOVERNMENT. IN MEETINGS WITH UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE, BARBERO SOUGHT ASSURANCES THAT BEDELL'S VIEWS DID NOT REPRESENT ADMINISTRATION  
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POSITION. BARBERO WAS INFORMED THAT BEDELL'S VIEWS DID NOT REPRESENT THOSE OF ADMINISTRATION, OR THOSE OF THE MAJORITY OF CONGRESS, BUT WAS REMINDED OF EXTREME CONGRESSIONAL SENSITIVITY SURROUNDING WHOLE QUESTION OF USE OF U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

2. IN OFF-THE-RECORD TALK BEFORE ASIA SOCIETY AND IN

MEETINGS WITH KEY CONGRESSIONAL AIDES MELCHOR AGAIN FLOATED HIS CONCEPT THAT SOLUTION TO SUBIC BAY (HE DID NOT SAY MUCH ABOUT CLARK) WOULD BE PLACING FACILITIES UNDER CONTROL OF CIVILIAN MULTINATIONAL WHICH WOULD THEN CONTRACT TO DO WORK REQUIRED BY U.S. MILITARY. MELCHOR, OFTEN USING MARCOS' NAME, GAVE SOME THE IMPRESSION THAT HE SPEAKING FOR PRESIDENT. SENATE FORRELCOMM STAFFER RAY WERNER TOLD US THAT WHEN HE ASKED MELCHOR POINT BLANK WHETHER MARCOS WAS BEHIND CONCEPT, MELCHOR REPLIED IN NEGATIVE. WERNER THEN OFFERED MELCHOR VIEW THAT -- IN CASE SUBIC WERE TO BECOME CIVILIAN FACILITY -- U.S. MILITARY MIGHT PREFER TO USE REPAIR FACILITIES IN SINGAPORE. SENATOR INOUE TOLD MELCHOR IDEA WAS COMPLETE NON-STARTER. WHEN MELCHOR FLOATED THIS IDEA BEFORE ASIA SOCIETY IT ATTRACTED NO PUBLICITY OR SUPPORT.

3. FROM THEIR REMARKS IT APPARENT BARBERO AND MELCHOR OBTAINED FULL FLAVOR OF CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION DURING THEIR CALLS ON HILL. THEY SAW ZABLOCK AND INOUE AND OTHERS. IN MEETINGS WITH STATE OFFICIALS AS WELL AS CONGRESS THEY WERE REMINDED THAT CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN PHILIPPINES IS PERVASIVE THROUGHOUT U.S. GOVERNMENT CIRCLES AND PUBLIC AND CAUSES SERIOUS USG-GOP PROBLEMS. AT ONE POINT BARBERO SAID HE FELT CERTAIN MARCOS INTENDS TO LIFT MARTIAL LAW -- AT LEAST PARTIALLY -- IN NEAR FUTURE. CONFIDENTIAL

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ON OTHER HAND MELCHOR, IN HIS TALK BEFORE ASIA SOCIETY, TOOK VERY HARD LINE IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, STATING MARTIAL LAW IS GOOD FOR COUNTRY AND IMPLYING IT IS HERE TO STAY FOR SOME TIME.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, PEPR, MASS, MOPS, US, RP, (MELCHOR, ALEJANDRO), (BARBERO, CARMELO),  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014